



Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC) Minutes Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Team Members Present:

Hon. Jennifer Dorow, Chief Judge & CJCC Chair
DOC Regional Chief Vicki Seibel-Garvey
Clerk of Circuit Court Monica Paz
Sheriff Eric Severson
DOC Community Corrections Field Supervisor Marla Bell
Citizen Member Jody Huelsman

County Board Chair Paul Decker (CJCC Vice Chair)
UW-Extension Director Jerry Braatz
Victim Witness Coordinator Jen Dunn
Town of Brookfield Municipal Judge JoAnn Eiring
HHS Director Elizabeth Aldred

Team Members Absent:

County Executive Paul Farrow
SPD Regional Attorney Manager Jeremy Perri
Hon. Maria Lazar, Juvenile Court Judge
District Court Administrator Michael Neimon

City of Waukesha Police Chief Dan Thompson
District Attorney Sue Opper
City of Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly
WCS Associate Executive Director Sara Carpenter

Others Present:

Justice Services Coordinator Rebecca Luczaj
Director of Court Services Mary Sweeney (Proxy for Carpenter)
Citizen Ralph Schultz
Assistant State Public Defender Paul Crawford (Proxy for Perri)
HHS Crisis Intervention and Chapter 51 Court Services Coordinator Jenny Wrucke
Victim Assistance Comfort Dog Pepper

Senior Administrative Specialist Janelle McClain
Legislative Policy Advisor Alex Ignatowski
HHS Clinical Services Division Manager Kirk Yauchler
Jail Administrator Angela Wollenhaupt

Welcome

Chair Dorow called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

Approve Minutes from July 28, 2021

Motion: Severson moved, second by Aldred, to approve the minutes from July 28, 2021. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Decker arrived at 8:34 a.m.

Presentation: *Embedded Mental Health Professional Pilot Program*

Wrucke presented a PowerPoint titled, "Embedded Mental Health Professional Pilot Program."

Severson commended the program and the embedded professional, Lauren Koster, for the benefits the position has already offered to the Department and County.

Decker asked what the Sheriff hopes to get out of this project. Severson answered that he hopes to see individuals with mental illness diverted from the jail. He expects to see incremental change, as this pilot only consists of 1 person. Decker said that data is needed so we can advocate with legislators for these types of alternatives to incarceration.

As data is collected on the pilot, Dorow would like the Mental Health Committee to review the data and then Aldred can report out on it to the CJCC when she gives her Mental Health Committee update.

Crawford left at 9:17 a.m.

Update on Marquette University Criminal Justice Data Analytics Program Graduate Student Practicum Placement for Spring Semester 2022

Luczaj stated that the CJCC Executive Committee approved a Marquette University graduate student, Melissa Santiago, to intern with the CJCC from January through May, for 10-12 hours per week. Santiago currently works for the County in Collections. When working on the project, she will have cubicle space in the new courtroom tower.

Santiago will be focusing on pretrial detention and reviewing statistics including, but not limited to:

- How long defendants are in custody pretrial?
- How many defendants are given cash bail versus signature bonds?
- How much the cash bail is for defendants still in jail?
- What are the PSA risk scores assigned to the defendants?
- What are the demographics of the defendants?

Courthouse Construction Project Update

Dorow stated that the new courtroom tower is complete, and will be fully operational beginning January 4, contingent upon last-minute details being finalized. On December 1, they will be holding the first trial in the new tower; testing the audio/visual technology with justice partners on December 6; and on December 17 they will be conducting preliminary hearings and lockups for the first time. Step 2 is the remodeling of the existing courthouse and design meetings will start in 2022, with construction starting in 2023.

CJCC Committee Updates

Pretrial

Dorow stated that the Pretrial Committee has been discussing the Marquette graduate student project. The student will be reporting out to the Pretrial Committee monthly and will present a final report to the CJCC at their meeting in May.

Case Processing

Paz reported that the Case Processing Committee continues to look at the case backlog caused by the pandemic. The COVID Relief Backlog Plan will begin in January, as a sixth judge is relocating to the Criminal/Traffic Division.

Crawford re-arrived at 9:29 a.m.

Pretrial conferencing has been successful in reducing the backlog of misdemeanor cases and has an average case clearance rate of 75%.

Alternative Interventions

Luczaj reported that the Alternative Interventions Committee cancelled the last scheduled meeting and will be meeting next in two weeks.

Mental Health

Aldred reported that the Mental Health Committee discussed the embedded crisis worker pilot in the Sheriff's Department, as well as the crisis stabilization project from the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) grant.

The committee also discussed a pilot program that the Waukesha Police Department is developing to track how often Naloxone is being administered. Once Naloxone has been administered to the same person two times, law enforcement will connect the person with HHS mental health/substance use clinic staff to receive services.

Victims' Rights

Dunn stated that the Victims' Rights Committee has been working through topics such as Marsy's Law, restitution hearings, and victim privacy. There will be victim witness waiting rooms in the new courtroom tower.

Announcements

Dunn reported that the Victim Assistance Comfort Dog, Pepper, has been with the program for almost a year. Dunn distributed a coloring/activity book featuring Pepper, which they give to children to help reduce anxiety. The hope is that the book will assist children in understanding the court process to help alleviate any fears or uncertainty.

Juvenile Court/Juvenile Summit Committee Update

In Lazar's absence, Dorow stated that Elizabeth Adams has been hired as the new Clerk of Juvenile Court.

The Summit Committee meetings have been continuing to be held.

Juvenile Court is incorporating the new federal Family First Legislation, a program that has all partners working to keep children in their family or relative's homes.

A Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) Seminar will be held at the Waukesha County Communications Center on January 21, 2022.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Motion: Decker moved, second by Eiring, to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 a.m. Motion passed unanimously.